Join a Racial Justice Reading Circle on Policing

While inequities in the American criminal justice system have persisted for centuries, high-profile police killings have brought renewed public attention to this racialized system of policing. What policies, practices, and psychological processes contribute to such racial disparities? How can we understand the costs of policing at the individual and community level? And should policing be reformed, re-imagined, or abolished altogether? This reading circle brings together research-and researchers-from across the social sciences to consider these and other topics. This reading circle meets in person on Tuesdays, 4-6pm on March 1, March 22, and April 5.

Reading circles consist of three 2-hour meetings in which a small group of MA, MPP, MPA and PhD students, postdocs, and faculty collectively explore a topic relevant to the study of race, (anti)racism, and racial justice. In reviewing applications, we aim to curate reading circles with diverse disciplinary perspectives and research interests. Selected applicants will receive a $250 stipend at the end of the semester for their participation. Apply to join by Monday, February 14!

Nick Camp, Ph.D., studies the social psychology of racial inequality, focusing on where institutions and individuals come into contact. His main program of research examines the role routine police-citizen encounters play in undermining police-community trust, and how these disparities can be addressed, combining analyses of officer-worn body camera footage with community surveys. In other research, he examines the psychological consequences of racial inequities for how individuals consider people, places, and policies.

Jeffrey Morenoff, Ph.D., is a professor of sociology and public policy, with an additional appointment at the Institute for Social Research (ISR). He is also director of the ISR Population Studies Center. Morenoff’s research interests include neighborhood environments, inequality, crime and criminal justice, the social determinants of health, racial/ethnic/immigrant disparities in health and antisocial behavior, and methods for analyzing multilevel and spatial data. In 2004, Morenoff won the Ruth Shonle Cavan Young Scholar Award from the American Society of Criminology for “outstanding contributions to the discipline of criminology.” He earned an MA and PhD in sociology from The University of Chicago.